प्रकाशनों के लिए नियमित रूप से विज्ञापन भी दिए जाते हैं । संभावित ग्राहकों को पुस्तक सूचियां भी भेजी जाती हैं ताकि उन्हें विभाग के प्रकाशनों की जानकारी मिलती रहे ।

यह विभाग हर साल अपने परिसर में एक प्रदर्शनी लगाता है जिसमें जाने-माने पुस्तक-विक्रेता और प्रकाशक भी भाग लेते हैं ।

82. [*Transferred to the 8th May, 1990*].

Arms confiscated in Punjab

83. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of confiscated arms of different types lying with the Punjab Government as on date;

(b) what is the number of weapons of difference types that have been confiscated by the Punjab Government since 1984;

(c) what is the number of persons who have been allotted different types of confiscated weapons in Punjab since 1984 and the reasons for the allotment;

(d) what are the names of persons who made request for allotment of confiscated weapons and of those whose requests have been rejected or are pending since 1984 and the reasons therefore and what is the social status of such applicants;

(e) what are the prices of different types of weapons confiscated by the Punjab Government; and

(f) what is the policy of Government in respect of allotment of confiscated weapons of 'P' Bore and 'N.P.' Bore types?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) A Statement giving available information is attached. [*See* Appendix CLIV, Annexure No. 7].

(c) to (f) Information about weapons allotted or cases pending for allotment or cases rejected and the reasons therefor, the assessed value of confiscated weapons etc. should be available with the State Government as the matter lies within their jurisdiction. In so far as the policy in regard to allotment of confiscated prohibited/non-prohibited bore weapons to individuals is concerned it may be stated that the Central Government has not framed any guidelines on the subject.

Passport Office at Jalandhar and Chandigarh

84. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for passports received, rejected and pending and the number of passports issued by the Regional Passport Offices of Jalandhar and Chandigarh during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for keeping the applications pending and for their rejection;

(c) the number of passports issued by the above passport offices within one month, two months, three months four months five months and above, of the receipt of application during the last two years; and

(d) whether Government are taking steps to ensure that passports are issued within one or two months of the receipt of an application?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) to (d) Data showing receipt of applica-

tions and passports issued over the last three years is indicated below:—

Fresh Passport Applications

Year	Receipt	Issued
RPO Chandigarh		
1987 . . .	62551	61025
1988 . . .	80384	55290
1989 . . .	90765	74594
RPO Jalandhar		
1987 . . .	57249	35445
1988 . . .	74881	70492
1989 . . .	100548	8710 2

The data regarding number of passport applications rejected and pending is being obtained.

(b) Reasons for pendency are:—

(i) delay in receipt of Police/CID reports; and

(ii) submission of incomplete information by applicants.

(c) Data is being obtained.

(d) Yes, Sir. Every effort is being made to reduce the time lag in issue of passports. The following special steps have already been initiated in this regard:

(i) Passport applications are scrutinized at counters and incomplete applications are returned to applicants on the spot, pointing out the deficiencies. Incomplete applications received by post are returned the same day, pointing out the deficiencies.

(ii) Despatch of the passport applications to the Police/CID authorities within 24 hours of their receipt.

(iii) Periodical reminders to the Police/CID authorities and constant liaison with these authorities at various levels.

(iv) Simplification and rationalization of passport procedures.

(v) Deployment of additional temporary staff and provision of special incentives to staff working on Sundays and closed holidays.

(vi) Despatch of passports to applicants within 5 working days of the receipt of Police Reports/clearance from the concerned authorities.

(vii) The progress of disposal of passport applications is monitored weekly.

Tripartite talks on Bodo Issue

85. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tripartite talks on Bodo issue in Assam were held on January 11, 1990 as scheduled; and

(b) if so, what specific issues were discussed during the talks; the details of the outcome thereof and the action taken so far in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During these talks grievances putforth by All Bodo Students' Union, including a demand for a separate State were discussed and it was agreed to hold further talk to find an amicable solution to the problems of Bodos. Subsequently 2 more rounds of tripartite discussions have been held on 9th March, 1990 and 18th April, 1990. As a result, a Committee comprising representatives from All Bodo Students' Union/Bodo Peoples' Action Committee, Government of Assam and